

**The following is mostly from Heritage with only minor additions/corrections.**

**1) MS66.** Smithsonian Institution 1984.1046.0812. Likely obtained directly from the Denver Mint in the late 1920s-early 1930s. Depicted in Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth's *Encyclopedia of U.S. Gold Coins 1795-1933* and illustrated on the Smithsonian website. A tiny tick appears on Liberty's exposed right (facing) knee, and a small mark shows on the ray just left of the D mintmark and one slightly further down the ray above the 9. The strike is incredibly sharp. On the reverse, a wispy die crack runs through the crossbar of (AMERIC)A, through two adjacent feathers and into the field below, a diagnostic shared with the Smithsonian coin 11, just below. The reverse shows a small scrape through three rays above (TRU)ST on the right side. On the lower left rays, tiny ticks occur on rays 5, 7, and 9 counting from the left inward.



Image courtesy of the National Numismatic Collection of the Smithsonian Institution

**2) MS66.** Smithsonian Institution 1985.0441.1523. Likely obtained directly from the Denver Mint in the late 1920s-early 1930s. In 2009 Heritage catalogers obtained previously unpublished images of this coin from the late Dick Doty, former National Numismatic Collection curator; those photos revealed that this coin has a couple of amazing similarities and several distinct differences from the Bell-Lilly-Smithsonian coin #3. A nick appears at the bottom of the olive branch, but on this coin the nick is more diagonal than near-vertical, about paralleling the bottom stem edge. A tiny dark spot appears just to the right of the nick, in the field. There is also a near-identical (to the Bell coin) mark on Liberty's belly, but here it is just about horizontal. The luster grazes in the left obverse field are more minor on this piece, without a triangular top and not quite meeting the tip of the third long ray counting from the left.



Image courtesy of the National Numismatic Collection of the Smithsonian Institution

**3) MS65.** Smithsonian Institution NU68.159.0391. J.F. Bell Collection (Stack's, 12/1944), lot 1004, \$500; Dr. Charles Green (B. Max Mehl, 4/1949), lot 917, \$630; (the Green coin is unplated in the catalog, but Mehl specifically attributes the coin as the J.F. Bell specimen in his lot description); Robert Schermerhorn; Stack's (privately, 1953); Josiah K. Lilly; Smithsonian Institution (1968). The 1944 Bell sale was the first public offering of a 1927-D double eagle. In 2009, Heritage catalogers obtained previously unpublished images of this coin from the late Dick Doty, former National Numismatic Collection curator, and plate-matched it to the photo in the Bell catalog. On the obverse, a near-vertical nick appears near the bottom end of the olive stem, clearly visible on both the Bell and SI images. There is a tiny dark spot below the L of LIBERTY, and a spot on Liberty's right (facing) knee. Luster grazes in the left field have a triangular-shaped top, with the bottom ending precisely at the tip of the third long ray from the left (visible on both). There is a near-vertical die crack through the forward portion of the eagle's beak.



Image courtesy of the National Numismatic Collection of the Smithsonian Institution

**4) MS66.** Denver Mint (1927); Museum of Connecticut History -- Connecticut State Library C08433. In 2009 Heritage catalogers obtained previously unpublished images of this well-struck coin, one of two 1927-Ds obtained directly from the Denver Mint in the year of issue by then-Connecticut State Librarian George S. Godard; its sibling, #9 below, was offered by Heritage in 2010. This specimen has two near-parallel reverse toning streaks that provide a clear identification, running through the eagle's rear tail feathers to the rim beneath CA. A small die crack runs through the crossbar of the last A in AMERICA, through the eagle's longest tail feather and out in the field. A smaller crack connects the tops of CA, and there appear to be traces of the usually seen straight-line vertical crack through the eagle's beak. On the obverse a tiny tick appears near the top of the fourth ray counting from the right, along with the usually seen straight die crack through LI and the torch. Some light field marks appear between the olive branch, Liberty's right (facing) arm, and TY.



Image courtesy of Heritage.

**5) MS67 PCGS.** Charlotte (Stack's, 3/1991), lot 1217, \$522,500; Jay Parrino; Phillip H. Morse (Heritage, 11/2005), lot 6697, \$1,897,500; Todd Imhof (then at Pinnacle Rarities) on behalf of a private client.

A small diagonal mark appears at the center of Liberty's waist.



**6) MS66+ PCGS.** Possibly Edward B. Morgan, directly from the Denver Mint in 1927; F.C.C. Boyd; World's Greatest Collection (Numismatic Gallery, 1/1946), lot 1045, \$650; Stack's (privately); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; U.S. Gold Coin Collection (Bowers and Ruddy, 10/1982), lot 1067, \$176,000; later, Dr. William Crawford. A July 2005 NGC press release stated that the coin was submitted by an anonymous Western dealer at the 2005 New York Invitational Coin Show, and that it was previously from an old private collection; later, North American Certified Trading (1/2006); East Coast dealer; Legend Numismatics (12/2009), to collector via private treaty.

The obverse has a tiny spot in the field just above the right (facing) shoulder. There appears to be an alloy spot on the fourth feather down from the top of the eagle's wing, below the S in DOLLARS.



**7) MS66 PCGS.** Lester Merkin via private treaty (per Julian Leidman); Herb Tobias; Mike Brownlee and Julian Leidman; H. Jeff Browning (9/24/1974), \$175,000; Dallas Bank (Sotheby's-Stack's, 10/2001), lot 206, \$402,500; ANA Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/2003), lot 4417; later, Rare Coin Wholesalers (6/2005, \$1,650,000); Legend Numismatics; BRS Legacy (6/2005); Bob R. Simpson (Heritage 8/1922), lot 3417, \$4,440,000

Small marks appear on the rays above the 19 in the date.

**Note:** Many coins privately purchased through Mike Brownlee for the Browning/Dallas Bank Collection came from John Murrell and it is possible this coin is from his collection.



**8) MS66 PCGS.** Primary Bartle (Stack's, 10/1985), lot 868, \$275,000; Orlando Sale (Superior, 8/1992), lot 686, unsold; Delbert McDougal Set of \$20 Saint-Gaudens Coins (Heritage, 1/2006), lot 3624, \$1,322,500; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 3303, unsold. A mark at the midpoint of the fourth ray right of Liberty identifies this example.



**9) MS66 PCGS.** Denver Mint (1927); Museum of Connecticut History-Connecticut State Library (Heritage, 6/1995), lot 6026, \$390,500 (as MS66 NGC); Jay Parrino; numerous intermediaries; Ralph P. Muller-FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 2331, \$1,495,000; Legend Numismatics, to collector via private treaty (1/2010); John Albanese in 2011, private collection.



**Note:** This coin may have been in the John D. Groendyke Collection in the early 2000s, as he reportedly had a complete set of Saint-Gaudens double eagles at the time and had business dealings with Parrino. Thanks to Doug Trentmann for this information.

**10) MS65+ PCGS.** James Kelly (late 1940s); "Mr. Lima" (private Lima, Ohio collector J.A. MacDonell), \$2,000; Auction '84 (Paramount, 7/1984), lot 999, \$198,000; Dr. Steven Duckor (1984); Dr. Thaine B. Price [consigned by Dr. Duckor] (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 115 (as MS65 PCGS), \$577,500; National Money Show (Superior, 3/2001), lot 989, unsold; Douglas Martin; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2014), lot 5597, as MS66 NGC, \$1,997,500; Rollo Fox; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2020), lot 4046, realized \$2,160,000; Mississippi (Heritage, 1/2025 FUN), lot 4964, realized \$3,840,000 Several tiny marks or

spots are visible on or between the rays left of Liberty.



**11) MS63 PCGS.** Western (Stack's, 12/1981), lot 1252, \$220,000; Julian Leidman; Vermont collector; King of Siam Sale (Bowers and Merena, 10/1987), lot 2201, \$242,000; Charles Kramer (Stack's and Superior, 11/1988), lot 913, \$187,000; Century (Superior, 2/1992), lot 3339, unsold; January-February Auction (Superior, 1/1993), lot 1595, \$137,500; Richmond, Part I (David Lawrence, 7/2004), lot 2431, \$575,000; Bob Green, acting as agent for the owner of the Lord Baltimore Registry Set; Park Avenue Registry Set; Donald E. Bently; Bently (Heritage, 3/2014), lot 30506, realized \$1,292,500; D.L. Hansen.

A diagonal field mark is visible between the end of Liberty's flowing hair and the rays below. A linear field mark runs southwest from near the bottom of the olive stem.



**12) MS64.** Blaise Dantone (Lester Merkin, 10/1969), lot 526, \$32,000; anonymous collector (perhaps Edwards Metcalf), after 10/1969, \$32,000+; Gilhouseen (Superior, 2/1973), lot 1041, \$60,000. A small spot is evident below the second L in DOLLARS. A small field mark is visible below the forearm and there is a horizontal scratch on Liberty that goes through the drapery of her gown and the right leg. There is also a small scratch through the ray under the first L in DOLLAR



**13) MS64.** An Eastern university; Schmandt/Eastern University Sale (Stack's, 2/1957), lot 1072; possibly in a midwest collection per Merkin's 9/69 sale, present location unknown. A small spot is visible in the field below the tip of the fourth feather down from the top of the eagle.



**14) MS63 estimated grade.** Mike Brownlee (1979); Paul Nugget and Ken Goldman (seen by Jim Halperin and David Akers); private Western collection. Thanks to Ken Goldman for this information. This could be the same as #13.